
**Guthrie, D.A., "Bird Surveys along the Santa Clara River and Its Tributaries
near Valencia, California" (July 5, 1994; 1994A)**

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**BIRD SURVEYS ALONG THE SANTA CLARA RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES
NEAR VALENCIA, CALIFORNIA, 1994**

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July 5, 1994

ADDITIONAL

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Nature and Scope of Surveys

During the spring and early summer of 1994 surveys were conducted of a section of the Santa Clara River and its tributaries in the vicinity of Valencia, California to determine presence or absence of least Bell's vireo and other Species of Concern. Numbers of all species observed were noted, and special attention was placed on locating species considered rare and endangered.

Each survey was conducted on foot by observers well acquainted with both visual and auditory patterns of southern California birds. All surveys occurred between 6 and 10 a.m. After initial surveys, which found no vireos, calls of least Bell's vireo were played during a subsequent census to elicit response from territorial males. Survey routes were designed to cover all areas of each section of the river, with emphasis placed on wetter habitats where least Bell's vireos and other sensitive riparian species are most likely to occur. Personnel for all surveys were Daniel A. Guthrie, Richard F. Clements, and Judith A. Sugden.

To facilitate surveys, the area was divided into eight sections (Figure 1). Delineation of the eight areas and comments on each follow. Surveys of the normally dry sections of the river system (Areas 3 - 8) where least Bell's vireos have not been observed during the past 5 years were conducted twice during the nesting season. The second survey was delayed until June to ensure that late arriving species such as yellow-billed cuckoo and willow flycatcher would not be missed. Surveys of the two sections of the Santa Clara River (Areas 1 and 2) where least Bell's vireos have been observed during the last 5 years were conducted according to the protocol outlined by the Fish and Wildlife Service (Appendix 1), except that surveys were not conducted during July. Additional visits were conducted to areas where least Bell's vireos were observed to determine continued presence.

Habitat Condition and Bird Observations.

In general, 1994 was a very good year for riparian habitat along the Santa Clara River. Flooding in 1993 removed much of the dead vegetation from the earlier period of drought and flattened out the river channel. The result was that large areas of sand adjacent to the river remained wet throughout the observation period. The 1994 floods were mild and did not damage developing wet riparian vegetation on these flats. Spring rains also allowed for development of this vegetation.

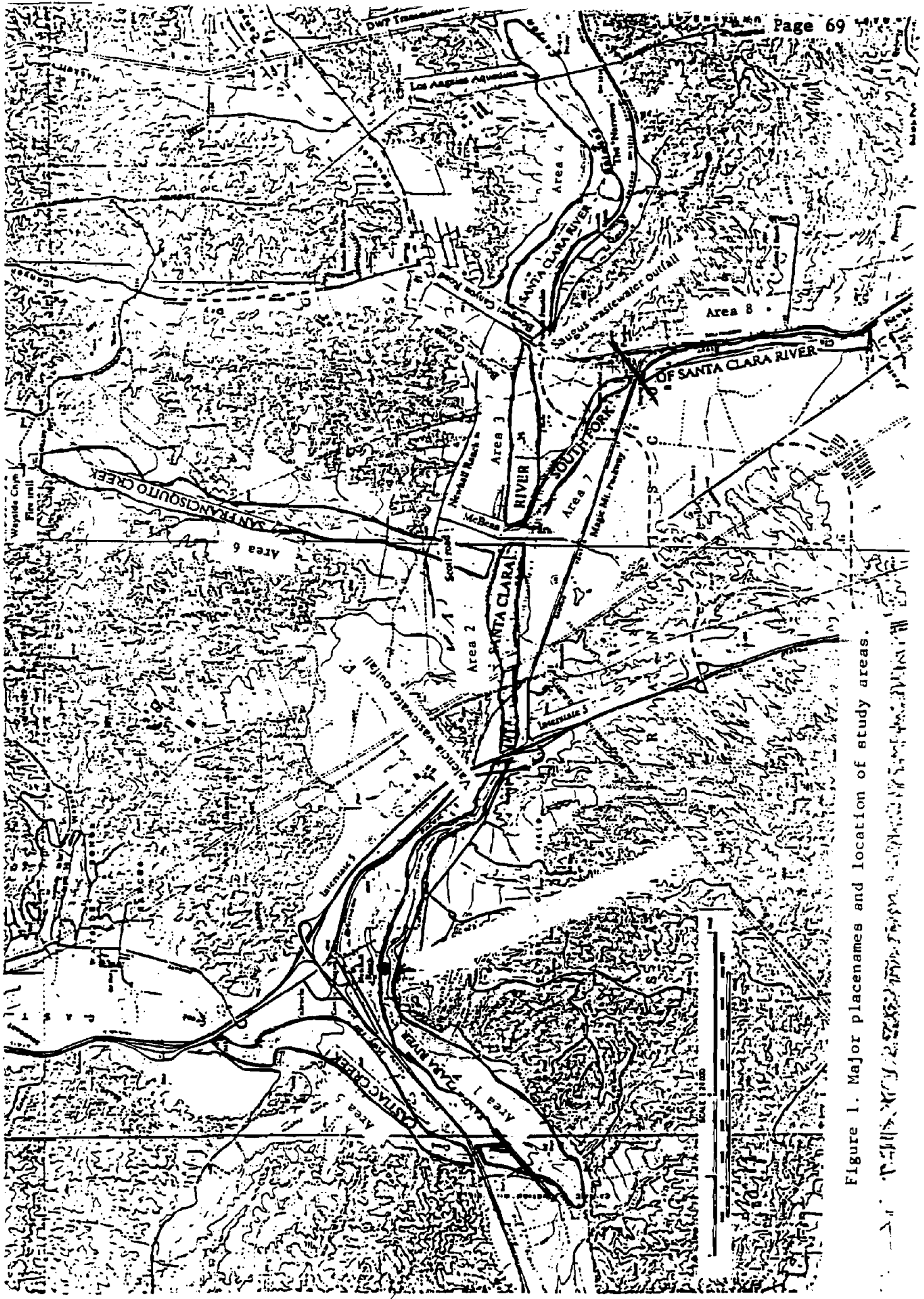


Figure 1. Major placenames and location of study areas.

Tables 1 through 8 present bird observations in each of the specific study areas for 1994. Different species breed at different times of the year. In general, species are most easily observed when they are actively defending territories by song during the establishment of breeding pairs. Once pairs are established and nesting begins song often decreases and the numbers of birds observed, therefore, also decreases. After young leave the nest, numbers observed increase. Thus, for most resident species, numbers of adult birds are most accurately censused in April, when territorial activity is at a maximum. A few species such as Anna's Hummingbird that nest early in the season may be underestimated. Numbers observed may decrease slightly in May and early June when birds are less active during nesting, and increase in late June and July when young birds leave the nest.

Several species that are not considered riparian species but are common in adjacent coastal sage and chaparral habitats come into the riparian zone in late summer when other vegetational areas are dry. The increase in numbers of lazuli bunting, lark sparrow, house finch, phainopepla and mourning dove in late June follow this trend.

Following are specific comments on the habitat and bird observations in each area.

Area 1. Santa Clara River; Old Highway to the mouth of Castaic Creek and Castiac Creek from this confluence to State Route 126.

Length of section, 3.5 miles. The Santa Clara River flows continuously in this section and is augmented by the Valencia waste water outfall near the upstream end of this section. Although this section was affected by an oil spill during the winter of 1993-4, no effects of this spill were observable at the time of the census. Near Castaic Junction, large flats of wet riparian vegetation were heavily used by red-winged blackbirds, song sparrows and common yellowthroats, all of which were more common than in previous years when these flats did not exist. Virginia rails were also seen regularly in this area and probably nested. In addition, a pond at Castaic Junction, a remnant of an old water cress field, was home to a colony of up to 200 pairs of tricolored redwings, a species not seen in any numbers in previous years.

Area 2. Santa Clara River; Old Highway to McBean Parkway.

Length of section, 1.4 miles. The Santa Clara River flows continuously in this section. The channel is braided and wet riparian vegetation is well developed along this section of the river. Although this section was affected by an oil spill during the winter of 1993-4, no effects of this spill were observable at the time of the census. Repairs to the I-5 and Old Highway bridges were in progress during the census period and probably decreased the number of swallows observed as they nest under these bridges. A slight increase in song sparrows and a large increase in red-winged blackbirds attests to the improved quality of the wet riparian habitat. This area was heavily impacted by off road vehicles during the study period. However, vehicles remained for the most part in the unvegetated section of the river channel. A comparison of numbers of song sparrows per mile nesting in this section (14.3) compared to Area 1, where vehicle disturbance was very minimal (17.1) shows little or no impact. A single least Bell's vireo was observed, and is discussed under Species of Special Concern.

Area 3. Santa Clara River; McBean Parkway to Boquet Canyon Road.

Length of section, 1.2 miles. Water, supplied by the Saugus wastewater outfall at the Boquet Canyon Bridge, is continuous in this section of the Santa Clara River. Riparian vegetation was considerably improved over 1993 as indicated by increase in song sparrows.

Area 4. Santa Clara River; Boquet Canyon Road upstream to DWP transmission lines.

Length of section, 2.3 miles. This section of the Santa Clara River is past years has been wet only briefly during spring rains. In 1994 a water release from the DWP aqueduct 2.0 miles upstream from Boquet Canyon Road kept this section wet throughout the winter and spring and resulted in the development of wet riparian habitat. Numbers of birds increased accordingly. Song sparrows and red-winged blackbirds increased dramatically along this section over previous years and a mallard duck nested successfully.

Area 5. Castaic Creek; Route 125 to Old Road next to Interstate 5.

Length of section, 1.8 miles. Prior to 1993 drought had killed much of the young willows along this section. The floods of 1993 removed the dead wood, but left many barren gravel bars. In 1994 these areas were well vegetated, the vegetation supported by flowing water due to upstream releases during the spring. The result was development of much wet riparian growth. Numbers of song sparrows and red-winged blackbirds increased over previous years and a small colony of tricolored redwings also appeared. A single least Bell's vireo was observed, and is discussed under Species of Special Concern.

Area 6. San Francisquito Creek; Santa Clara River upstream 2.5 miles.

Length of section, 2.5 miles. This section was wet in April and May but dry during June and July. Due to better development of wet riparian vegetation, song sparrow and red-winged blackbird numbers were up from previous years. Observations of least Bell's vireo and Willow flycatcher are discussed under Species of Special Concern.

Area 7. South Fork of the Santa Clara River; McBean Parkway to Magic Mountain Parkway (Route 126).

Length of section, 1.0 miles. The channel along this section of the South Fork is narrow and very sandy. Almost all vegetation along the bottom of the channel was removed by spring floods. Some standing water was present near the McBean bridge. A great horned owl nested under the rte 126 bridge. This bridge was removed in May for replacement after the owls had fledged.

Area 8. South Fork of the Santa Clara River, Route 126 upstream to Newhall Creek.

Length of section, 1.4 miles. This section of the river was dry except for camp areas formed by runoff from culverts along the west side of the creek. Cattails developed in these wet areas supported fewer song sparrows than in previous years and no redwing blackbirds, perhaps a sign of human disturbance near the wet areas.

General Comments on Habitat Quality

Table 9 presents census data from the past 5 years on selected species. Song sparrows are dependent upon the narrow band of wet riparian vegetation found along permanent streams. The decrease in numbers from 1990 to 1991 is a reflection of the severe drought experience in southern California during this period. Although 1992 was a comparatively wet year, the removal of most wet riparian vegetation by spring floods further reduced the numbers of this species, especially in area 1. In 1993, spring flooding further removed wet riparian vegetation and there was little regrowth prior to the nesting season. Low numbers of song sparrows are an indication of this destruction of wet riparian habitat.

As shown in table 9, during 1994 wet riparian vegetation improved dramatically along Castaic Creek (area 5) and San Francisquito Creek (area 6). Numbers of Song sparrows in areas 2 and 3, the Santa Clara River between I-5 and Boquet Canyon Road, continue to be depressed from high numbers in 1990. This may be due to off road vehicle damage or simply to slow recovery following the 1993 floods.

Numbers of yellow warblers, another species dependent upon wet riparian vegetation, were up slightly in 1994. Bewick's wren is a common inhabitant of the drier sections of the riparian zone that were not so heavily impacted by spring flooding. Numbers of this species show an increase in 1992 and 1993, wet years, over the numbers in drier 1991. This is presumably due to increases in insect food. The slight decrease in 1994, especially along the Santa Clara River between I-5 and the confluence with Castaic Creek, may be due to observer concentration on wetter portions of the river.

Comments on Sensitive Species

Cooper's Hawk

Cooper's Hawk is considered a Species of Special Concern by the State of California. Two pairs of Coopers hawks were observed in 1994, the same number as observed in 1992 and 1993. This species is a resident that nests and hunts in riparian woodland habitat.

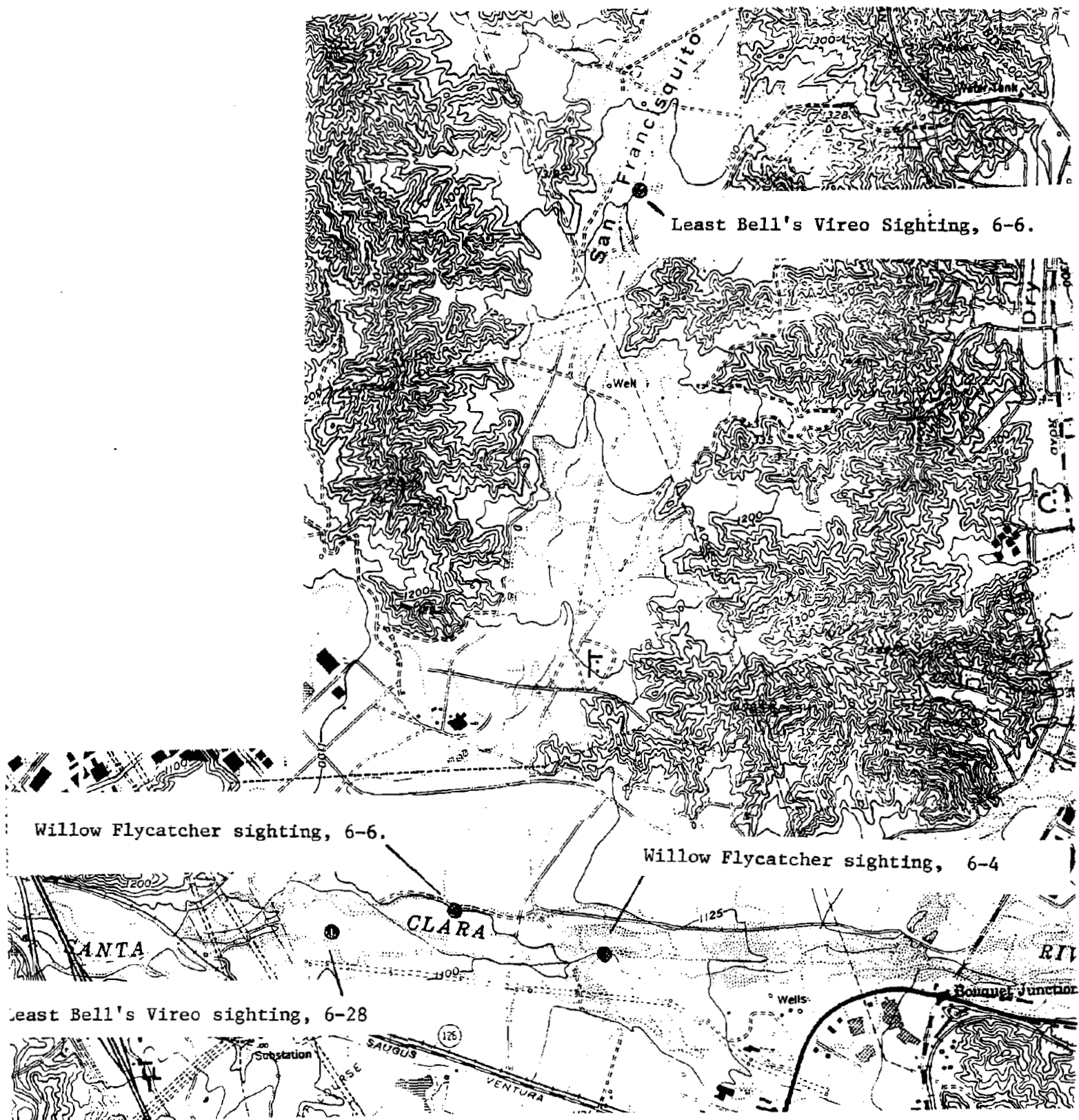
White-tailed Kite

This species, formerly the Black-shouldered Kite, is considered "Special" by the State of California. A pair of kites nested in the dry woodland on the north side of the Santa Clara River near the confluence with Castaic Creek.

Willow Flycatcher

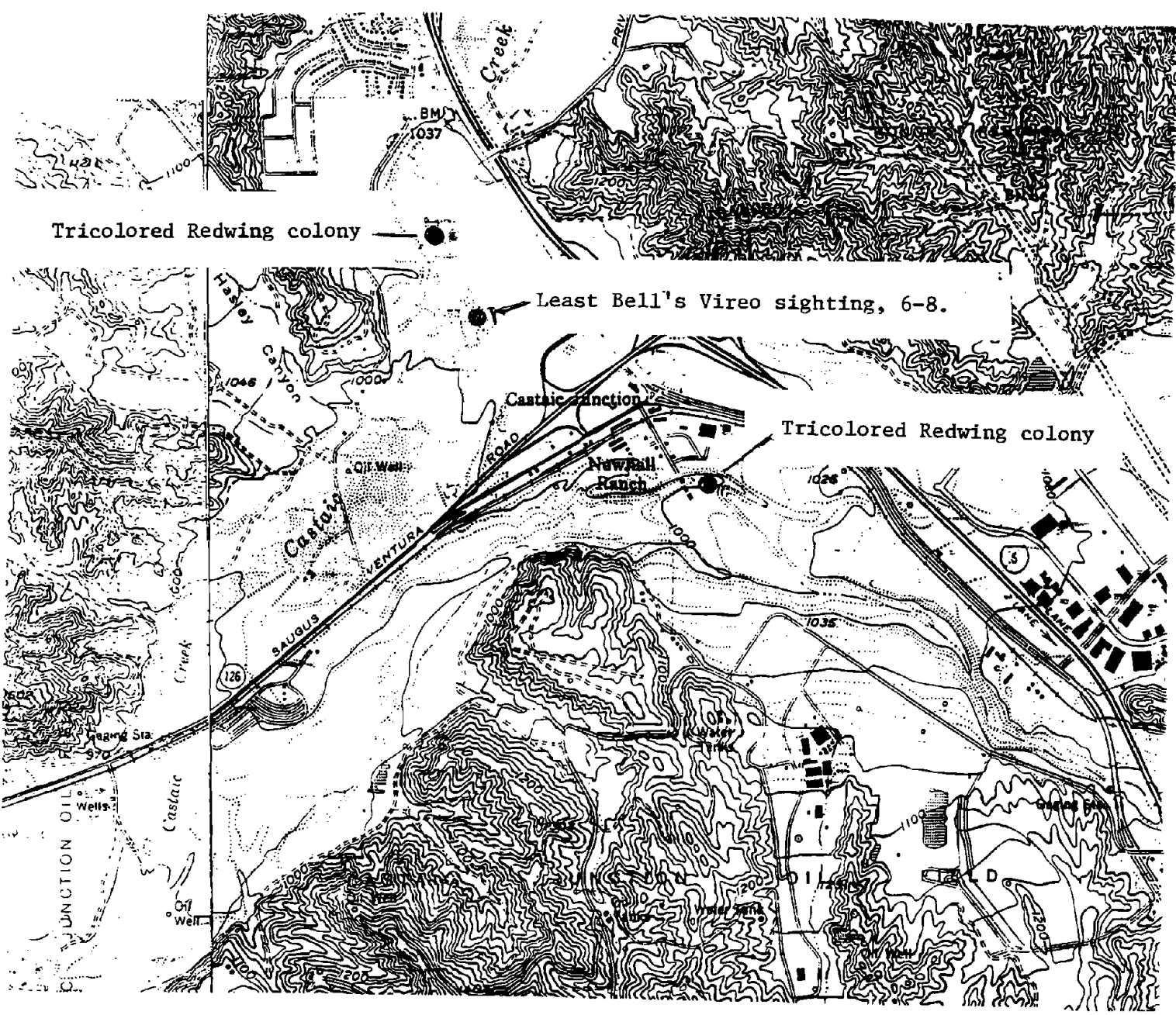
This species is considered a Category 1 Candidate for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Willow flycatchers were once widespread in wet riparian woodland in southern California but now only a few individuals exist. The main California breeding populations of this species are along the Kern River

Figure 2. Locations of Least Bell's Vireo and Willow Flycatcher sightings, 1994.



This topographic map depicts the Castaic region, including the Castaic Mountains and the San Gabriel Mountains. Key features include:

- Tricolored Redwing colony**: Indicated by a black dot in the upper left and another in the center-right.
- Least Bell's Vireo sighting, 6-8.**: Marked with a black dot in the upper center.
- Geographical Labels**: Castaic, San Gabriel, Castaic Canyon, Newhall Ranch, and Castaic Junction.
- Infrastructure**: Highway 126, Highway 100, and various oil wells.
- Elevation**: Contour lines showing elevations from 900 to 1200 feet.



and in northern California. Individuals of this species were observed in late May and early June at locations shown on figures 2 and 3. However, none of these birds could be relocated on subsequent visits. It seems likely that the individuals observed were migrants resting during migration to localities further north.

California Horned Lark

This species is a candidate for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Horned larks were observed near Castaic Junction in plowed fields adjacent to the Santa Clara River.

Least Bell's Vireo

Three least Bell's vireos were observed in 1994 at locations indicated in figures 2 and 3. Only the bird on San Francisquito Creek was singing. The other two did not sing spontaneously but only in response to a tape. Despite revisits to each of the three locations on two separate occasions, none of the three vireos could be relocated. All observations occurred late in the year and may be of juveniles wandering from their nesting area after fledging. When observed, the birds seemed to move along the stream channels rather than remain in a single location. However, both the Castaic Creek and Santa Clara River Channel localities are in suitable breeding habitat for vireos and should be checked for vireo occurrence in future years.

Yellow Warbler

The yellow warbler is considered a Species of Special Concern by the State of California. Yellow warblers prefer wet riparian habitat but are also found in large cottonwoods in drier riparian areas. Singing yellow warblers were observed along nearly every section of the Santa Clara River and Castaic Creek. A few of the birds observed were probably migrants and this species is known to sing its territorial song during migration. Numbers in 1994 were about the same as those observed in previous years.

Yellow-breasted Chat

The yellow-breasted chat is considered a Species of Special Concern by the State of California. Chats were observed sparingly along the wet sections of the Santa Clara River. Numbers were up from the previous year.

Tricolored Blackbird

The tricolored blackbird is a Category 2 Candidate for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act. A colony of about 200 breeding pairs of this species occupied a small marsh area along the side of the Santa Clara River at Castaic Junction and another smaller group of about 20 pair nested in a pond beside Castaic Creek (figure 3). Neither of these colonies existed in previous years. Both occur in small pockets of cattail contained in enclosed areas. The pocket on Castaic Creek appears to be an old barrow pit left over from work on flood control dikes. The area along the Santa Clara River was an active watercress field until destroyed by the 1993 floods. Rains during 1994 resulted in standing water and lush growth of cattails in both locations.

Table 1. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994: Santa Clara River from Old Highway along 1-5 to the mouth of Castaic Creek and Castaic Creek from this confluence to State Route 126.

Species	date:	4-12	5-3	5-13	5-31	6-15	6-28	status
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W,M
Great Egret	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	W,M
Snowy Egret	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	W,M
Green Heron	-	-	6	-	2	3	-	R
Bl. cr. Night Heron	-	-	4	1	2	-	-	R?
Canada Goose	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	M
Mallard	4	2	2	2	2	-	-	R
Cinnamon Teal	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	M
Turkey Vulture	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	M
White-tailed Kite	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	R
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	-	-	1	2	5	-	R
Red-tailed Hawk	-	1	1	2	1	3	-	R
American Kestrel	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	R
California Quail	12	34	23	12	16	20	-	R
American Coot	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	M
Sora Rail	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	M
Virginia Rail	-	1	2	-	1	1	-	R?
Killdeer	14	16	14	4	13	10	-	R
Spotted Sandpiper	-	1	4	6	8	6	-	S
Solitary Sandpiper	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	M
Least Sandpiper	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	M
Common Snipe	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	M
Domestic Pigeon	3	12	26	2	21	9	-	R
Mourning Dove	4	4	20	17	15	8	-	R
Barn Owl	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	R
Greater Roadrunner	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	R
White-throated Swift	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	R
Vaux's Swift	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	M
Black-ch. Hummingbird	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	S
Anna's Hummingbird	1	4	6	5	4	3	-	R
Costa's Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	S
Nuttall's Woodpecker	2	9	7	13	8	8	-	R
Downy Woodpecker	3	2	3	1	4	8	-	R
Hairy Woodpecker	1	1	-	4	4	-	-	R
Northern Flicker	2	-	-	1	-	3	-	R
Western Wood Pewee	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	M
Pac. Slope Flycatcher	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	M
Black Phoebe	1	4	2	4	5	6	-	R
Ash-thr. Flycatcher	4	14	8	8	14	13	-	S
Western Kingbird	1	4	2	2	4	3	-	S
Horned Lark	-	2	2	2	2	-	-	R
Violet-green Swallow	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	S
N. Rough-w. Swallow	8	11	24	69	51	36	-	S
Barn Swallow	1	2	2	-	-	4	-	M
Cliff Swallow	-	11	4	4	56	21	-	S

Table 1 (cont.). Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994:
 Santa Clara River from Old Highway along I-5 to the mouth of Castaic
 Creek and Castaic Creek from this confluence to State Route 126.

Species	date: 4-12	5-3	5-13	5-31	6-15	6-28	status
Scrub Jay	6	12	18	22	12	8	R
American Crow	3	10	15	13	11	18	R
Common Raven	9	4	6	6	16	11	R
Plain Titmouse	2	16	12	9	15	18	R
Bushtit	8	11	22	7	25	17	R
Bewick's Wren	28	27	35	14	41	17	R
House Wren	6	13	6	6	5	1	R
Western Bluebird	5	2	-	-	5	-	R
Swainson's Thrush	-	1	-	-	1	-	S,M
American Robin	-	-	-	-	-	2	R
Wrentit	4	-	-	1	-	-	R
N. Mockingbird	-	-	-	-	2	-	R
Calif. Thrasher	1	4	2	5	4	1	R
Cedar Waxwing	-	25	25	-	-	-	W,M
Phainopepla	-	1	1	4	9	9	R
European Starling	10	26	51	12	12	37	R
Solitary Vireo	-	1	-	-	-	-	M
Warbling Vireo	-	2	-	-	-	-	M
Orange-cr. Warbler	1	1	-	-	-	-	R
Yellow Warbler	2	15	4	3	3	4	S
Yellow-r. Warbler	20	1	-	-	-	-	W,M
Common Yellowthroat	12	26	11	12	24	29	R
Wilson's Warbler	-	11	7	-	-	-	M
Yellow-br. Chat	1	-	-	1	2	5	S
Western Tanager	-	16	3	-	-	-	M
Black-headed Grosbeak	8	19	17	11	4	26	S
Blue Grosbeak	-	2	-	-	1	2	S
Lazuli Bunting	-	14	-	9	4	6	S
Rufous-sided Towhee	8	5	12	12	9	7	R
California Towhee	2	6	9	6	8	1	R
Savannah Sparrow	4	-	-	-	-	-	W,M
Lark Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	11	R
Song Sparrow	41	67	55	54	101	96	R
White-cr. Sparrow	17	-	-	-	-	-	W
Red-winged Blackbird	67	152	150	66	65	20	S
Tricolored Redwing	-	-	300	400	150	2	S
Western Meadowlark	-	2	-	-	-	-	R
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	10	-	-	R
Brown-headed Cowbird	8	38	27	25	24	36	S
Hooded Oriole	-	-	-	-	1	-	S
Northern Oriole	-	4	6	3	2	10	S
House Finch	2	17	6	2	20	21	R

Table 1 (cont.). Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994:
 Santa Clara River from Old Highway along I-5 to the mouth of Castaic
 Creek and Castaic Creek from this confluence to State Route 126.

Species	Date:	4-12	5-3	5-13	5-31	6-15	6-28	status
Lesser Goldfinch		8	2	29	2	6	-	R
Lawrence's Goldfinch		2	-	-	-	-	-	R
American Goldfinch		6	6	-	-	-	-	W,M

Total Species:	53	57	55	48	54	48
Total Individuals:	370	700	1037	872	827	589

Total Species on all visits: 90

Total Probable Breeding species: 55

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

Censuses of 4-12, 5-13 and 6-15 on north side of river,

Censuses of 5-3, 5-31 and 6-28 on south side of river.

Table 2. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994: Santa Clara River from McBean Parkway to Old Highway along I-5.

Species	Date:	4-12	5-3	5-13	5-31	6-15	6-28	Status
Bl. cr. Night Heron		-	-	1	-	-	-	R?
Mallard		4	-	-	-	-	-	R
White-tailed Kite		1	-	-	-	-	-	R
Cooper's Hawk		-	-	-	1	-	-	R
Red-shouldered Hawk		1	-	1	1	1	2	R
Red-tailed Hawk		-	1	-	-	1	-	R
California Quail		6	-	7	2	-	2	R
Killdeer		3	2	4	4	2	4	R
Spotted Sandpiper		-	-	1	-	-	-	S
Domestic Pigeon		-	4	3	-	-	-	R
Mourning Dove		3	5	2	2	-	3	R
Greater Roadrunner		-	-	1	-	-	-	R
Black-ch. Hummingbird		2	-	-	-	-	-	S
Anna's Hummingbird		4	1	1	2	-	2	R
Nuttall's Woodpecker		2	7	3	3	3	8	R
Downy Woodpecker		-	3	-	3	2	5	R
Hairy Woodpecker		-	-	-	1	3	-	R
Northern Flicker		-	1	-	1	-	-	R
Pac. Slope Flycatcher		-	-	1	-	-	-	M
Black Phoebe		-	-	-	3	1	5	R
Ash-thr. Flycatcher		-	3	1	4	1	5	S
Western Kingbird		-	-	-	-	-	6	S
N. Rough-w. Swallow		10	11	19	6	18	13	S
Cliff Swallow		-	-	-	-	7	-	S
Scrub Jay		4	2	2	2	2	7	R
American Crow		-	2	2	2	8	5	R
Common Raven		2	1	1	2	2	2	R
Plain Titmouse		2	6	6	6	4	13	R
Bushtit		5	-	2	4	3	8	R
Bewick's Wren		21	16	16	11	13	11	R
House Wren		3	5	2	2	1	-	R
Western Bluebird		-	3	-	2	1	10	R
Swainson's Thrush		-	2	2	-	-	-	M
American Robin		-	2	-	-	-	-	R
Wrentit		-	-	-	1	1	1	R
N. Mockingbird		-	-	1	-	-	-	R
Calif. Thrasher		-	1	-	3	1	-	R
Phainopepla		-	-	1	-	-	1	R
European Starling		2	4	1	3	-	3	R
Bell's Vireo		-	-	-	-	-	1	S
Warbling Vireo		-	4	-	-	-	-	M
Orange-cr. Warbler		10	0	0	0	-	-	M
Yellow Warbler		2	10	4	2	2	2	S,M
Yellow-r. Warbler		54	1	-	-	-	-	W,M
Black-th. grey Warbler		2	-	-	-	-	-	M
Common Yellowthroat		5	-	3	3	2	5	R
Wilson's Warbler		1	6	11	-	-	-	M
Yellow-br. Chat		1	1	-	-	1	-	S

Table 2 (cont.). Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994:
Santa Clara River from McBean Parkway to Old Highway along I-5.

Species	date:	4-12	5-3	5-13	5-31	6-15	6-28	Status
Western Tanager		-	5	-	-	-	-	M
Black-headed Grosbeak		4	10	7	5	4	8	S
Blue Grosbeak		-	-	2	-	-	1	S
Lazuli Bunting		-	-	-	-	-	1	S
Rufous-sided Towhee		4	4	4	5	3	4	R
California Towhee		-	2	1	4	2	-	R
Song Sparrow		24	20	21	17	18	42	R
Red-winged Blackbird		5	4	20	3	10	-	S
Brown-headed Cowbird		4	13	7	6	3	19	S
Northern Oriole		-	1	-	-	-	2	S
House Finch		-	2	-	4	12	18	R
Lesser Goldfinch		1	7	2	-	5	7	R
Lawrence's Goldfinch		-	-	-	1	-	-	R
American Goldfinch		18	-	-	-	-	-	W,M
Total Species:		31	36	35	34	31	33	
Total Individuals:		210	172	165	121	137	225	

Total Species on all visits: 62

Total Probable Breeding Species: 44

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

Table 3. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994: Santa Clara River from Boquet Canyon Rd. to McBean Parkway.

species	date:	4-12	6-4	Status
Cooper's Hawk	-	1		R
Red-tailed Hawk	1	1		R
California Quail	14	12		R
Killdeer	2	7		R
Domestic Pigeon	18	-		R
Mourning Dove	4	6		R
Rufous Hummingbird	1	-		M
Black-ch. Hummingbird	3	2		S
Anna's Hummingbird	1	4		R
Nuttall's Woodpecker	3	6		R
Downy Woodpecker	3	1		R
Northern Flicker	-	3		R
Willow Flycatcher	-	1		S
Black Phoebe	2	4		R
Ash-thr. Flycatcher	7	3		S
Western Kingbird	-	3		S
N. Rough-w. Swallow	11	4		S
Cliff Swallow	6	-		S
Scrub Jay	7	14		R
American Crow	7	4		R
Common Raven	12	8		R
Plain Titmouse	4	6		R
Bushtit	16	12		R
Bewick's Wren	6	2		R
House Wren	1	-		R
Western Bluebird	2	2		R
Calif. Thrasher	2	4		R
Phainopepla	1	2		R
European Starling	1	18		R
Orange-cr. Warbler	1	-		M
Yellow Warbler	1	3		S
Yellow-r. Warbler	23	-		W, M
Black-th. grey Warbler	1	-		M
Common Yellowthroat	6	-		R
Wilson's Warbler	4	-		M
Yellow-br. Chat	-	1		S
Black-headed Grosbeak	3	1		S
Blue Grosbeak	-	2		S
Lazuli Bunting	-	1		S
Rufous-sided Towhee	4	2		R
California Towhee	5	3		R
Song Sparrow	15	31		R
White-cr. Sparrow	15	-		W
Red-winged Blackbird	5	3		S
Brown-headed Cowbird	14	2		S

Table 3. (cont.) Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994:
Santa Clara River from Boquet Canyon Rd. to McBean Parkway.

Species	date:	4-12	6-4	Status
Northern Oriole		6	-	S
House Finch		6	17	R
Lesser Goldfinch		3	8	R

Total Species:	41	36
Total Individuals:	247	201

Total Species on all visits: 48
Total Probable Breeding Birds: 41

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

Table 4. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994: Santa Clara River from Power Line 2.5 miles upstream from Boquet Canyon Rd. to Boquet Canyon Road Crossing.

Species	date:	4-28	6-4	Status
Pallard		2	1(8)	R
Red-tailed Hawk		1	4	R
American Kestrel		-	5	R
California Quail		37	12	R
Killdeer		18	14	R
Mourning Dove		15	47	R
Greater Roadrunner		-	1	R
Anna's Hummingbird		5	2	R
Nuttall's Woodpecker		1	3	R
Northern Flicker		2	3	R
Black Phoebe		1	1	R
Ash-trn. Flycatcher		1	3	S
Western Kingbird		-	2	S
N. rough-w. Swallow		1	-	S
Cliff Swallow		-	3	S
Scrub Jay		17	7	R
Common Raven		22	9	R
Bushtit		10	7	R
Bewick's Wren		21	9	R
Western Bluebird		-	1	R
Wrentit		1	-	R
N. Mockingbird		5	4	R
Calif. Thrasher		5	5	R
Phainopepla		-	7	R
European Starling		4	18	R
Yellow-r. Warbler		1	-	R
Wilson's Warbler		2	-	R
Black-headed Grosbeak		-	2	S
Rufous-sided Towhee		6	3	R
California Towhee		12	5	R
Song Sparrow		7	8	R
Red-winged Blackbird		41	38	S
Brewer's Blackbird		6	6	S
Brown-headed Cowbird		5	3	S
Northern Oriole		7	1	S
House Finch		16	21	R
Lesser Goldfinch		5	9	R

Total Species: 30 33
Total Individuals: 277 272

Total Species on all visits: 37
Total Possible Breeding Species: 32

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

() = Young Birds

Table 5. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1993: Castaic Creek from Old Road west to Rte. 126.

Species	date:	4-21	6-6	Status
Green Heron		-	1	R
Bl. cr. Night Heron		-	1	R
Mallard		2	-	R
White-tailed Kite		1	1	R
Cooper's Hawk		-	1	R
Red-tailed Hawk		3	2	R
California Quail		35	57	R
American Coot		-	2(1)	R
Killdeer		6	4	R
Domestic Pigeon		2	10	R
Mourning Dove		2	2	R
Black-ch. Hummingbird		3	-	S
Anna's Hummingbird		12	6	R
Costa's Hummingbird		1	-	S
Nuttall's Woodpecker		1	6	R
Downy Woodpecker		-	5	R
Hairy Woodpecker		-	1	R
Northern Flicker		1	-	R
Black Phoebe		-	8	R
Ash-thr. Flycatcher		5	7	S
Western Kingbird		4	2	S
Violet-green Swallow		3	-	S
N. Rough-w. Swallow		58	14	S
Barn Swallow		-	1	S
Cliff Swallow		30	68	S
Scrub Jay		14	17	R
American Crow		14	13	R
Common Raven		7	17	R
Plain Titmouse		-	12	R
Bushtit		11	46	R
Bewick's Wren		23	18	R
House Wren		2	2	R
Wrentit		-	1	R
Calif. Thrasher		9	8	R
European Starling		17	4	R
Bell's Vireo		-	1	S
Orange-cr. Warbler		1	-	M
Yellow Warbler		-	2	S
Yellow-r. Warbler		3	-	M, W
Common Yellowthroat		-	8	R
Wilson's Warbler		3	-	M
Yellow-br. Chat		-	3	S
Black-headed Grosbeak		4	7	S
Blue Grosbeak		1	7	S
Lezuli Bunting		-	1	S
Rufous-sided Towhee		17	17	R
California Towhee		13	13	R

Table 5 (cont.). Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1993:
Castaic Creek from Old Road west to Rte. 126.

Species	date:	4-21	6-8	Status
Song Sparrow		44	18	R
Red-winged Blackbird		40	25	S
Tricolored Redwing		-	30	S
Brown-headed Cowbird		19	23	S
Northern Oriole		4	2	S
House Finch		14	12	R
Lesser Goldfinch		8	4	R

Total Species:	38	45
Total Individuals:	437	480

Total Species on all visits: 54
Total Possible Breeding Species: 46

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

() = Young Birds

Table 6. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994: San Francisco Creek for 2 Miles above Main Channel.

Species	date:	4-28	6-6	Status
White-tailed Kite		2	-	R
Cooper's Hawk		-	1	R
Red-tailed Hawk		1	2	R
American Kestrel		1	1	R
California Quail		128	13	R
Killdeer		7	2	R
Domestic Pigeon		-	2	R
Mourning Dove		17	26	R
Greater Roadrunner		-	1	R
Black-ch. Hummingbird		2	4	S
Anna's Hummingbird		2	4	R
Costa's Hummingbird		2	-	R
Nuttall's Woodpecker		10	10	R
Downy Woodpecker		2	-	R
Northern Flicker		1	-	R
Western Wood Pewee		1	-	M
Pac. Slope Flycatcher		1	-	M
Willow Flycatcher		-	4	S
Ash-thr. Flycatcher		9	9	S
Western Kingbird		5	2	S
N. Rough-w. Swallow		-	6	S
Cliff Swallow		-	29	S
Scrub Jay		13	23	R
American Crow		10	2	R
Common Raven		8	11	R
Plain Titmouse		2	1	R
Bushtit		10	10	R
Bewick's Wren		20	15	R
House Wren		10	3	R
Western Bluebird		-	2	R
N. Mockingbird		1	4	R
Calif. Thrasher		8	3	R
Phainopepla		-	3	R
European Starling		4	4	R
Bell's Vireo		-	1	S
Orange-cr. Warbler		1	-	M
Yellow Warbler		6	1	S
Common Yellowthroat		6	1	R
Wilson's Warbler		6	-	M
Black-headed Grosbeak		6	3	S
Rufous-sided Towhee		8	24	R
California Towhee		11	16	R
Song Sparrow		42	40	R
Lincoln's Sparrow		1	-	W
White-cr. Sparrow		4	-	W
Red-winged Blackbird		100	26	S
Western Meadowlark		14	5	R

Table 6 (cont.). Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994: San Francisquito Creek for 2 Miles above Main Channel.

Species	Date:	4-28	6-6	Status
Brown-headed Cowbird		12	18	S
Northern Oriole		11	10	S
House Finch		22	42	R
Lesser Goldfinch		-	4	R
Lawrence's Goldfinch		-	2	R

Total Species:	41	42
Total Individuals:	527	390

Total Species on all visits: 52
 Total Possible Breeding Species: 42

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

() = Young Birds

Table 7. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994: South Fork from Rte. 126 to McBean Parkway.

Species	date:	4-21	6-6	Status
Red-tailed Hawk		1	-	R
American Kestrel		1	-	R
California Quail		8	4	R
Killdeer		4	2	R
Mourning Dove		2	3	R
Great Horned Owl		2	1	R
Anna's Hummingbird		1	1	R
Nuttall's Woodpecker		1	1	R
Northern Flicker		-	1	R
Black Phoebe		-	2	R
Ash-thr. Flycatcher		-	1	S
Rough-winged Swallow		-	2	S
Scrub Jay		3	6	R
American Crow		1	-	R
Common Raven		5	-	R
Bushtit		-	4	R
Bewick's Wren		5	1	R
N. Mockingbird		1	1	R
Calif. Thrasher		1	1	R
Wilson's Warbler		4	-	M
California Towhee		4	-	R
House Finch		4	7	R
Total Species:		17	16	
Total Individuals:		48	38	

Total Species on all visits: 22
Total Possible Breeding species: 21

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

Table 8. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1994: South Fork from Newhall Creek to Rte. 126.

Species	date:	4/21	6-6	Status
Red-tailed Hawk		-	1	R
California Quail		2	-	R
Killdeer		4	5	R
Mourning Dove		7	1	R
Anna's Hummingbird		5	2	R
N. Rough-w. Swallow		2	-	S
Scrub Jay		1	5	R
Common Raven		2	3	R
Bushtit		2	4	R
Bewick's Wren		4	1	R
American Robin		1	-	R
N. Mockingbird		2	4	R
Phainopepla		1	-	R
European Starling		2	2	R
Yellow-rumped Warbler		2	-	M
Wilson's Warbler		1	-	M
California Towhee		1	-	R
Song Sparrow		5	7	R
Brown-headed Cowbird		-	1	S
Northern Oriole		2	1	S
House Finch		2	7	R
Lesser Goldfinch		4	-	R
Total Species:		20	14	
Total Individuals:		52	44	

Total Species on all visits: 22

Total Possible Breeding Species: 18

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

() = Young Birds

Table 9. Comparison of Populations of Selected Species, 1990 - 1994.

Species	Year	Census Areas								Total
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Song Sparrow	1994	67	20	15	7	44	40	0	5	198
	1993	63	15	6	2	18	11	0	13	128
	1992	63	38	28	2	5	14	7	10	167
	1991	112	30	39	0	9	7	12	24	233
	1990	117	82	36	0	11	16	15	30	307
Yellow Warbler	1994	3	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	10
	1993	5	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
	1992	9	5	3	1	0	3	0	0	21
	1991	23	8	2	2	17	4	0	4	60
	1990	16	20	2	1	10	0	3	1	53
Bewick's Wren	1994	28	18	6	21	23	20	4	2	122
	1993	51	11	4	26	27	9	10	1	139
	1992	35	29	3	10	6	11	8	-	102
	1991	46	5	8	8	3	13	5	3	91
	1990	77	15	14	27	48	17	7	10	215